



National Brownfields Assessment Pilot

Jersey City, NJ

Outreach and Special Projects Staff (5101)

Quick Reference Fact Sheet

EPA's Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Initiative is designed to empower States, communities, and other stakeholders in economic redevelopment to work together in a timely manner to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield is a site, or portion thereof, that has actual or perceived contamination and an active potential for redevelopment or reuse. Between 1995 and 1996, EPA funded 76 National and Regional Brownfields Assessment Pilots, at up to \$200,000 each, to support creative two-year explorations and demonstrations of brownfields solutions. EPA is funding more than 27 Pilots in 1997. The Pilots are intended to provide EPA, States, Tribes, municipalities, and communities with useful information and strategies as they continue to seek new methods to promote a unified approach to site assessment, environmental cleanup, and redevelopment.

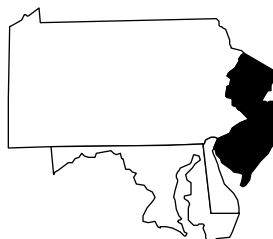
OVERVIEW

EPA has selected Jersey City as a Brownfields Pilot. Located on the Paulus Hook peninsula and in close proximity to New York City, Jersey City served as a magnet to the railroad and shipping industries over the last century. In the 1960s, railroad use began declining and industrial companies began departing from the area. These changes resulted in both environmental and economic problems. Approximately one-fifth of the city's acreage has been identified as potential brownfields sites. The pilot area consists of the former industrialized and rail areas surrounded by the residential communities of Bergen Hill, Greenville, and Lafayette.

OBJECTIVES

Jersey City's brownfields pilot will serve as a prototype for development of a standardized redevelopment model. It will focus on methods for the completion of brownfields site inventories, site assessments, and remediation planning. Particular emphasis will be on funding a comprehensive community-based environmental education and participation program.

PILOT SNAPSHOT



Jersey City, New Jersey

Date of Award:
April 1997

Amount: \$200,000

Site Profile: The pilot area consists of former industrial and rail areas surrounded by the residential communities of Bergen Hill, Greenville, and Lafayette.

Contacts:

Paul Hamilton
Jersey City Redevelopment
Agency
(201) 547-4799

Larry D'Andrea
U.S. EPA - Region 2
(212) 637-4314
dandrea.larry@
epamail.epa.gov

Visit the EPA Brownfields Website at:
<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields>

Jersey City believes the brownfields pilot will encourage redevelopment and reuse of brownfields properties that will lead to an increased municipal tax base, create new industrial jobs, and reduce potential exposure to contaminants by residents of adjacent neighborhoods.

ACTIVITIES

Activities planned as part of this pilot include:

- Developing an inventory of brownfields sites in a comprehensive data and graphic information retrieval system;
- Conducting programs for community involvement, environmental education, and public participation, and establishing a mobile educational information center;
- Completing site assessments in the target area; and
- Developing remedial work plans for site cleanups, incorporating innovative technologies whenever possible.

The cooperative agreement for this Pilot has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.